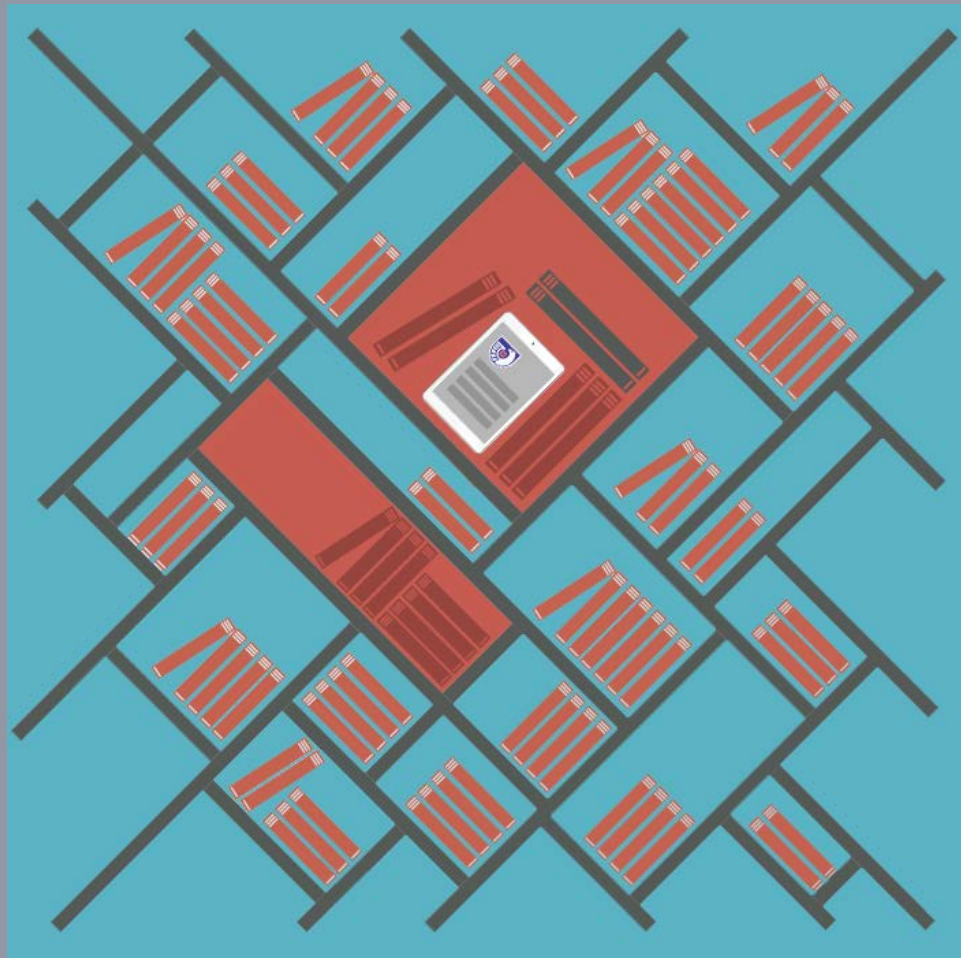


Recommendations of the Depository Library Council to the GPO Director, Fall 2016



FEDERAL DEPOSITORY LIBRARY PROGRAM

<http://www.fdlp.gov>

INTRODUCTION

This document presents the recommendations of the Depository Library Council from the Fall 2016 Depository Library Council Meeting and Federal Depository Library Conference and the U.S. Government Publishing Office's responses to those recommendations.

DEPOSITORY LIBRARY COUNCIL RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE U.S. GOVERNMENT PUBLISHING OFFICE, FALL 2016

Recommendation #1: Council recommends that GPO create an online public collection of all Superintendent of Documents' public policy statements currently in effect.

Justification:

Occasionally, documents and presentations have cited public policy statements of the Superintendent of Documents without including either the full text or a link to the full text of the referenced public policy statements. Some public policy statements currently in effect appear to be accessible only by GPO staff. To provide more context, it would be helpful to make all of the public policy statements easy for depository librarians and the public to locate, browse, and search.

Council recommends that GPO designate a single site or tool as the official source of all Superintendent of Documents' Public Policy Statements (SOD PPS) currently in effect. Ideally, the SOD PPS should be easy to browse or search by keyword, title, and date of issue. The page at <https://www.fdlp.gov/superintendent-of-documents-public-policies> could serve this purpose.

Council further recommends that GPO explore the feasibility of creating an archive of all previous SOD PPS, clearly indicating those which are no longer in effect.

GPO Response:

GPO thanks Council for this recommendation and for its support for making Superintendent of Documents policy statements publicly-accessible. GPO began making the Superintendent of Documents Public Policy Statements (SOD-PPS) available on [FDLP.gov](https://www.fdlp.gov) in late March 2016 with the scope statements for the Federal Depository Library Program, the Cataloging and Indexing Program, and GPO's System of Online Access. Others have been added since, the most recent one being a revision of the harvesting policy that was uploaded December 19, 2016.

GPO will continue to add SOD-PPSs to the website according to priorities:

- Policies that are cited in public documents.
- Policies that support the Trustworthy Digital Repository audit process.
- New policies.
- Other policies that are currently in effect.

Prior to making any current policies available on [FDLP.gov](https://www.fdlp.gov), they will be reviewed, revised as appropriate, and cleared for public access.

Commendation # 1: Council commends GPO for engaging with the community as it develops new resources and tools.

Council commends GPO on the development of the new tool to handle needs and offers, FDLP eXchange. GPO listened to the needs of regionals who manage the selective discard process and anticipated the need for shared collection management by developing a modern tool to serve the goals of libraries. Council encourages continued development of FDLP eXchange, including integration with existing tools and workflows where possible to ensure the broadest possible adoption. GPO's engagement with the community during the development of the eXchange should be a model for the continuing development of the Library Services System.

GPO Response:

GPO thanks the DLC for its commendation related to our development of the FDLP eXchange. As the tool enters its final stage of development, there are several important community resources to note.

1. FDLP eXchange [project page](#) on FDLP.gov
2. FDLP eXchange [Feedback Form](#) (Communications are sent directly to the project team.)
3. FDLP eXchange [FAQs](#).

The eXchange project team will continue to keep the FDLP community apprised of developments as we approach the launch of the new tool.

Commendation # 2: Continue to develop FIPNet partnerships

Council commends GPO on its progress in developing partnerships for the Federal Information Preservation Network (FIPNet). This initiative, an outgrowth of the FDLP forecast study, responds to the community's request that GPO provide leadership and expertise in the preservation of tangible and digital collections of U.S. government information. The FIPNet model and the roles developed by GPO support a collaborative and sustainable approach that leverages local preservation efforts already underway. Council encourages GPO to build on these early successes and urges FDLP libraries to explore ways in which they might participate or contribute to FIPNet.

GPO Response:

GPO is committed to continually enhancing our partnership program for continued growth of our commitment to permanent public access to U.S. Government information. This is accomplished through our long-standing content, service, and hybrid partnerships, as well as our new FIPNet partnerships. To better communicate about these collaborations, GPO will be revising and updating partnership and preservation content on [fdlp.gov](#), which will serve as an enhanced tool moving forward for recruiting new partners. GPO thanks the DLC for their continued support in these endeavors.

Commendation # 3: Council extends its appreciation to Director Davita Vance-Cooks for her continued support of in-person Council meetings.

Council commends GPO for supporting the depository community by continuing to support community meetings, and for allowing Council to attend both the Spring and Fall meetings in person. The addition of a second broadcast room for the Fall 2016 conference allowed a larger assortment of presentations to be shared

with online attendees, providing a new benefit to virtual attendees. It also enabled Council members to view programs besides the Council sessions which they are required to attend.

GPO Response:

Modern technology provides great opportunity for so many more FDLP community members to participate in annual FDLP events than ever before. That said, the value of face-to-face collaboration will never decrease. GPO supports bringing together the members of the DLC twice yearly for the twice annual events. In spring 2016, the value of having the DLC present at GPO during the three-day virtual meeting was abundantly clear. As long as funding continues to allow GPO to continue this practice, GPO Director Davita Vance-Cooks supports having the members of the DLC onsite for annual events, as well as continuing to enhance our virtual education offerings in conjunction with our events.

Commendation # 4: Collection Development Plan, draft Digitization Guidelines, and draft Public Libraries Report

Council commends GPO for publishing three documents Council feels will go a long way to reducing confusion and possible inconsistencies within the government information community:

GPO's System of Online Access Collection Development Plan (9/30/2016) - Council commends this plan because it includes guidelines for acquiring born-digital content and identifies gaps in FDsys/**govinfo** along with a plan to fill those gaps. Council was also pleased to see that the plan lays the groundwork for ingesting content from permanent.access.gpo.gov into the main system of online access. The information in the plan should assuage some fears about born-digital content being left behind and ensure greater protection for material now stored on permanent.access.gpo.gov.

*Draft Guidance for Contributing Digital Content to FDsys/**govinfo** (10/15/2016)* - For several years libraries have requested specific, actionable standards for contributing in-scope content to FDsys. This year, GPO delivered a four page document that is explicit about resolution, format and other aspects of digital files that GPO will accept for their digital system. Council predicts this will unleash a flood of useful, high-quality content for the entire government information community.

Council further commends GPO for honoring our request to study why public libraries why public libraries appear to be relinquishing Depository status at a higher rate than other kinds of Federal Depository Libraries. The draft report, *To Better Serve and Support Public Libraries: GPO's Analysis and Findings on Public Libraries Leaving the Federal Depository Library Program Between 2007-2015 (9/30/2016)* is a useful data point for continuing the discussion on how best to support public libraries in the program and encourage new ones to join. This is of particular importance because public libraries fill an important role in keeping America informed.

GPO Response:

The staff at GPO thanks the DLC for their continued support, input, and feedback on these important documents. As we continue to map the future of the FDLP, these documents each play a key role in ensuring the public its continued permanent access to U.S. Government information. GPO pledges to continue the path of transparency, engaging with the FDLP community on these issues, obtaining input and feedback, and making this type of information continuously accessible.